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March 9, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Mail Stop: Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 10/772,470; Filed: February 6, 2004
For: **Vacuum Membrane Extraction System**
Inventors: LaCOURSE *et al.*
Our Ref: 2254.0010001/RWE/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$510.00 for a three-month extension of time fee (small entity);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
March 9, 2005
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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RWE/JKM:bac
Enclosures

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